Vacant Posts of Judges

3203. SHRI RANGANATH MISRA :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have asked Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers to send proposals for filling vacancies due to arise in next six months ;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has been repeatedly urging High Courts and States that entire process of filling the vacancies of Judges should be undertaken six months before the vacancies is to arise so that the post is filled without any delay ;

(c) if so, the vacancies in the Supreme Court, High Courts and other Subordinate Courts, as on today; and

(d) since how long these vacancies have been in existence?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) : Yes Sir.

(c) the number of posts vacant in the Supreme Court and the High Courts as on 16-04-2003 is as given below :

(i) Supreme Court — 2

(ii) High Courts — 136

(iii) As per information received up to 16-04-2003 from various State Government/High Courts, there are 1964 vacant posts of Judges/Magistrates in the District and Subordinate Courts.

(d) (i) In the Supreme Court, the vacancies arose on 19-12-2002 and 5-4-2003 respectively.

(ii) The information regarding the age of vacancies in the High Courts is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(iii) Since filling up of the vacant posts of Judges/Magistrates at the District and Subordinate Courts is the concern of the respective High Courts and the State Governments, no statistics is maintained in this regard by the Central Government.